



# COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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190

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## RURAL PRODUCTION

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1968

#### SCOPE

This bulletin summarises detailed information published in the bulletins "Livestock, 31 March 1968" and "Cereals, Season 1967-68" recently issued from this Bureau, and shows in addition particulars concerning areas and yields of other crops, rural employment, use of artificial fertilisers, machinery on rural holdings, and direct overseas exports of rural produce. It also lists some South Australian records associated with rural production.

In tables where figures have been rounded, discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

#### AREA AND UTILISATION OF HOLDINGS

The area of 13,385,000 acres under cultivation (crops, sown pasture, and fallow) was 421,000 acres less than the record 13,805,000 acres in 1966-67. The total area of crops decreased from 5,737,000 acres in 1966-67 to 5,609,000 acres, the decrease being mainly in the areas of grain and hay.

The area of sown pasture from 1920 to 1950 increased steadily from 20,000 to 1,066,000 acres but has since increased rapidly. In 1967-68 the area of sown pasture was 6,713,000 acres, a decrease of 25,000 acres from the record 6,738,000 acres in 1966-67.

TABLE 1 - AREA AND UTILISATION OF RURAL HOLDINGS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
	'000 Acres				
Cereals for grain	4,457	4,309	4,334	4,633	4,604
Field peas (grain)	30	34	30	29	17
Hay	358	314	299	482	429
Green forage	378	462	474	420	399
Vineyards	59	59	59	57	58
Orchards	42	43	44	44	45
Vegetables (a)	16	16	17	17	17
Other crops	40	53	37	55	39
Total crops	5,380	5,290	5,293	5,737	5,609
Sown pasture -					
Lucerne	595	674	737	762	825
Clover and other	4,979	5,540	5,824	5,976	5,888
Fallow land	1,114	1,231	1,201	1,331	1,063
Balance of holdings	146,837	144,219	146,339	147,705	147,381
Total area	158,905	156,954	159,394	161,510	160,765

(a) Includes areas of potatoes grown for seed but excludes areas of other vegetables grown for animal forage or seed.



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RURAL  
EMPLOYMENT

The following table shows for each of the last three years the number of persons employed in March and the value of wages paid (including keep where applicable) during the twelve months ended 31 March.

TABLE 2 - RURAL EMPLOYMENT (a), SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1966		1967		1968	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Permanent workers -						
Owners, occupiers, etc.	23,035	525	22,579	414	21,737	311
Unpaid relatives	912	69	674	38	419	14
Paid employees	8,172	393	8,045	353	7,568	334
Temporary workers (b)	10,585	5,178	10,551	5,627	9,862	5,244.
Wages paid (\$'000) -						
Permanent employees	14,064	439	15,225		15,410	
Temporary employees (b)(c)	10,407	1,066	12,399		12,499	

- (a) Excludes females engaged mainly in domestic duties and other workers engaged only part time.  
 (b) Working full time during period of engagement.  
 (c) Excludes payments for construction or development work.

ARTIFICIAL  
FERTILISERS  
USED

There has been very little change in recent years in the proportion of area under crop fertilised but there has been a gradual increase in the quantity of fertiliser per acre applied to crops and pasture.

TABLE 3 - PRINCIPAL CROPS AND PASTURE FERTILISED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1967

Particulars	Area Fertilised	Fertilisers Used		Total per Acre
		Superphosphate	Other	
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Lb
Wheat (all purposes)	2,793,020	152,489	2,870	124.52
Vegetables	13,607	3,039	5,398	1,388.83
Fruit and vines	56,861	4,697	8,487	519.38
Other crops	2,169,219	112,839	2,681	119.29
Total crops	5,032,707	272,964	19,436	130.14
Pasture	5,129,921	302,513	4,964	134.26
Grand total	10,162,628	575,477	24,400	132.22

TABLE 4 - CROPS AND PASTURE FERTILISED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Unit	1964	1965	1966	1967
Crops -					
Area fertilised	'000 acres	4,775	4,869	5,123	5,033
Fertiliser used	ton	254,268	265,132	286,896	292,400
Cropped area fertilised	%	90.3	92.0	89.3	89.7
Fertiliser per acre	lb	119.28	121.97	125.45	130.14
Pasture -					
Area fertilised	'000 acres	4,714	5,093	5,237	5,130
Fertiliser used	ton	274,558	296,830	311,912	307,477
Fertiliser per acre	lb	130.45	130.56	133.42	134.26





AREA AND  
PRODUCTION  
OF CROPS

Tables 5, 6, 7, and 8, show details of area and production of the principal crops grown in South Australia during 1967-68 compared with similar details for previous years.

TABLE 5 - CEREALS AND HAY : AREA AND PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Unit	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Wheat -						
Area for grain	'000 acres	2,802	2,727	2,745	2,960	2,864
Production	'000 bush	53,971	52,817	39,976	53,816	26,899
Yield per acre	bushel	19.26	19.37	14.56	18.18	9.39
Barley -						
Area for grain	'000 acres	1,123	1,095	1,098	1,107	1,157
Production	'000 bush	24,337	26,932	18,514	23,698	12,380
Yield per acre	bushel	21.67	24.60	16.86	21.41	10.70
Oats -						
Area for grain	'000 acres	501	444	455	509	525
Production	'000 bush	9,149	8,977	5,622	10,276	3,299
Yield per acre	bushel	18.27	20.23	12.37	20.19	6.29
Rye -						
Area for grain	'000 acres	31	44	36	57	58
Production	'000 bush	153	262	186	244	197
Yield per acre	bushel	4.88	5.96	5.11	4.31	3.40
Field Peas -						
Area for grain	'000 acres	30	34	30	29	17
Production	'000 bush	490	496	242	306	61
Yield per acre	bushel	16.25	14.67	8.09	10.67	3.67
Hay -						
Area	'000 acres	358	314	299	482	429
Production	'000 tons	488	487	368	729	418
Yield per acre	ton	1.37	1.55	1.23	1.51	0.97

TABLE 6 - VEGETABLES (a) : AREA AND PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Vegetable	Area		Production		
	1966-67	1967-68	Unit	1966-67	1967-68
	Acres				
Beans - French	187	163	bushel	41,327	43,987
Beetroot	89	93	ton	671	774
Cabbage	405	388	dozen	197,104	207,129
Carrots	368	457	ton	5,224	6,387
Cauliflowers	633	621	dozen	276,474	271,490
Celery	267	266	crate	204,905	196,483
Green peas	4,035	3,471	bushel	327,088	251,124
Lettuce	498	519	case	284,997	297,537
Melons	423	393	ton	2,441	2,252
Onions	1,631	1,682	ton	17,933	16,635
Parsnips	65	75	ton	694	815
Potatoes	5,948	6,527	ton	60,271	63,331
Pumpkins, etc.	764	682	ton	4,946	4,191
Tomatoes	1,408	1,354	bushel	994,422	945,128
Turnips	222	250	ton	1,730	1,744
All other	484	526	..	..	..
Total	17,426	17,465	..	..	..

(a) Grown for human consumption. Includes potatoes for seed but excludes vegetables for animal forage and other vegetable seed.

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100

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TABLE 7 - VINEYARDS : AREA AND PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Acres Bearing		Production		
	1966-67	1967-68	Unit	1966-67	1967-68
Grapes used for -					
Wine	41,496	46,231	ton	163,780	170,581
Table	199	225	ton	1,027	1,031
Drying	11,037	6,936	ton	60,609	29,616
Total	52,732	53,392	ton	225,416	201,228
Produce -					
Wine (a)	..	..	'000 gal	29,324	(b)30,071
Dried fruit -					
Currants	..	..	cwt	75,452	62,243
Sultanas	..	..	cwt	248,288	91,949
Raisins	..	..	cwt	22,597	12,051

(a) Excludes fortifying spirits added. (b) Preliminary.

TABLE 8 - ORCHARDS : BEARING TREES AND PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Variety	No. of Bearing Trees		Production		
	1966-67	1967-68	Unit	1966-67	1967-68
Almonds	300,641	315,641	cwt	20,947	22,404
Apples	528,955	525,568	bushel	1,544,059	1,378,336
Apricots	381,895	379,932	bushel	1,307,308	683,422
Cherries	49,539	50,158	bushel	41,411	53,285
Citrus -					
Lemons, limes	22,720	25,933	bushel	55,345	50,625
Navel oranges	396,537	418,716	bushel	1,297,640	945,168
Valencia oranges	450,822	498,938	bushel	1,706,106	1,271,638
Other citrus	67,015	73,779	bushel	248,339	320,221
Figs	8,090	7,840	bushel	10,623	11,330
Nectarines	14,915	15,290	bushel	33,111	31,309
Olives	37,718	42,226	cwt	(a)12,578	(a)14,197
Peaches	397,346	390,345	bushel	1,426,570	1,242,591
Pears	165,911	166,860	bushel	530,091	609,724
Plums, prunes	78,487	75,385	bushel	104,607	80,024

(a) Includes olives grown in parklands and reserves.



LIVESTOCK

The following table shows details of numbers of and production from livestock.

TABLE 9 - LIVESTOCK : NUMBERS AND PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
'000					
Stock at end of March -					
Sheep	16,402	17,289	17,993	17,864	16,405
Cattle -					
Cows for milk production (a)	192	189	182	177	164
Other cattle for milk production	78	73	72	71	67
Cattle for meat production	424	435	436	439	464
Horses	(b)	(b)	(b)	16	(b)
Pigs	153	196	224	222	242
Poultry	2,159	2,199	2,320	2,913	3,249
Lambing (c) -					
Ewes mated	6,850	7,191	7,505	7,583	7,638
Lambs marked	5,402	5,739	5,954	5,974	5,889
Slaughtering (d) -					
Sheep	1,568	1,581	1,981	1,979	2,497
Lambs	1,428	1,519	1,493	1,378	1,521
Cattle and calves	279	275	277	265	245
Pigs	213	241	298	316	(f) 310
'000 Lb.					
Production -					
Wool clip	194,787	200,059	212,745	220,372	205,583
Wool production (d) (e)	210,500	215,736	229,633	237,493	(f) 222,667
Butter (d)	16,791	17,392	16,326	15,245	(f) 12,268
Cheese (d)	34,236	38,836	36,281	38,598	(f) 32,542
Bacon and ham (d)	8,076	8,562	9,196	9,864	(f) 8,314
'000 Gallons					
Milk (d)	97,523	102,330	98,398	98,727	(f) 88,059

(a) Includes springing heifers and house cows.

(b) Not collected.

(c) Calendar year first stated.

(d) Year ended 30 June.

(e) Includes wool exported on skins and dead and fellmongered wool.

(f) Preliminary.

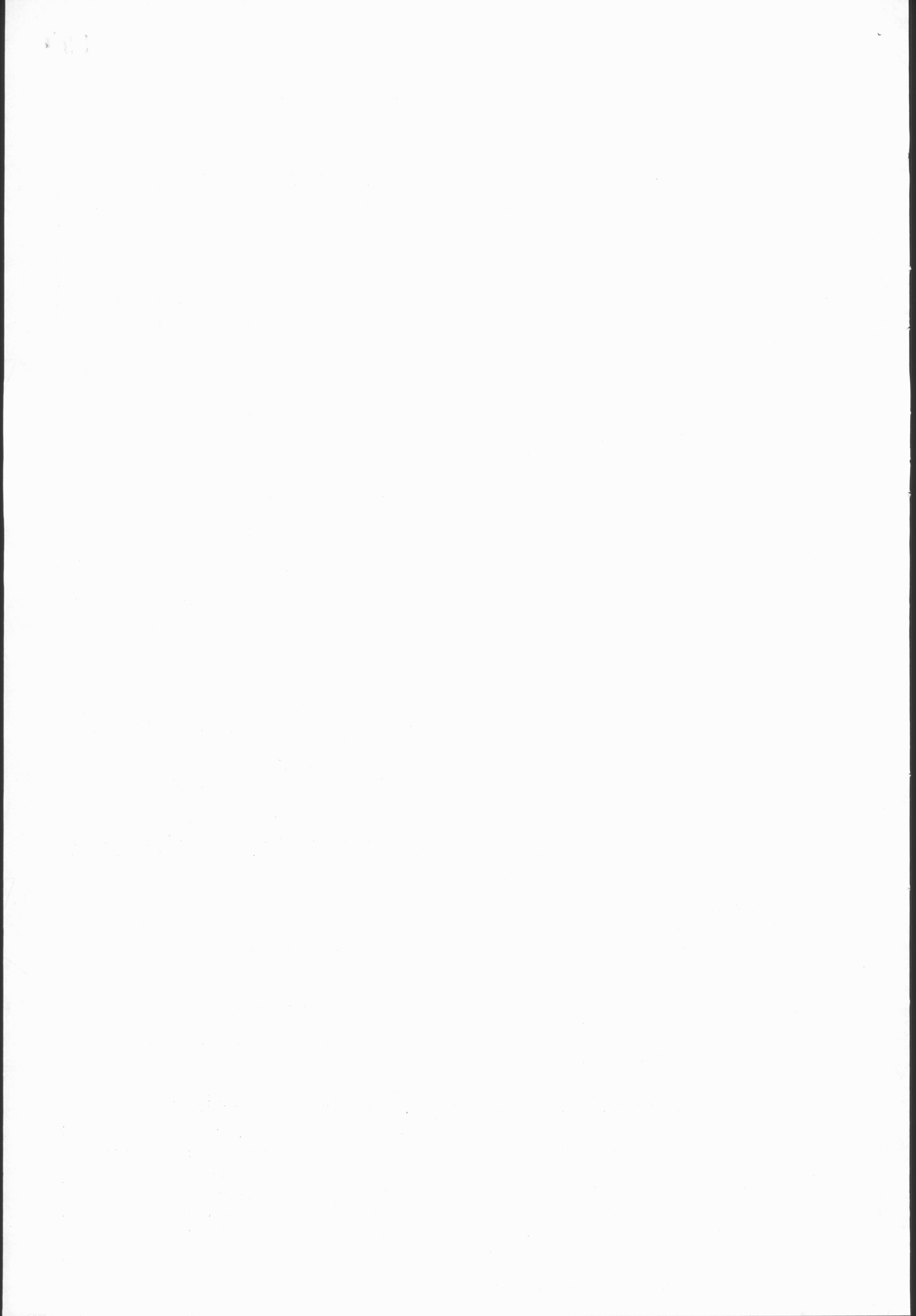
BEEKEEPING

The production of honey and beeswax fluctuates considerably from year to year, depending upon seasonal conditions. The average yield of honey per productive hive decreased slightly from 115 lb in 1966-67 to 113 lb in 1967-68.

TABLE 10 - BEEKEEPING : HIVES AND PRODUCTION (a), SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Beekeepers	857	781	793	784	812
Productive hives	63,142	58,728	65,522	57,311	60,763
Unproductive hives	8,535	13,900	9,333	15,511	12,006
Honey lb	9,721,492	6,526,587	9,929,399	6,588,090	6,844,117
Beeswax lb	134,008	89,810	136,429	93,427	105,265

(a) Excludes producers with less than 5 hives.



PRODUCTION  
RECORDS

New records were established in 1967-68 for the production of almonds and pears. These are shown in Table 11 together with those in previous years for crops, and livestock, etc.

TABLE 11 - RURAL INDUSTRY : RECORD PRODUCTION, NUMBERS, ETC., SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Item	Unit	Quantity	Year	Item	Unit	Quantity	Year
Cereals -				Livestock -			
Production -				Sheep	'000	17,993	1966
Wheat	'000 bush	53,971	1963-64	Cattle	'000	697	1965
Barley	'000 bush	42,233	1960-61	Horses	'000	284	1913
Oats	'000 bush	11,992	1958-59	Pigs	'000	224	1966
Yield/acre -				Production -			
Wheat (a)	bushel	23.56	1960-61	Wool -			
Barley (a)	bushel	28.27	1958-59	Clip	'000 lb	220,372	1966-67
Oats (a)	bushel	24.93	1958-59	Total	'000 lb	237,493	1966-67
Vineyards -				Lambs marked	'000	5,974	1966
Grapes (b)	ton	234,297	1964-65	Milk	'000 gal	102,330	1964-65
Currants	cwt	209,140	1943-44	Butter	'000 lb	22,938	1939-40
Raisins	cwt	117,505	1953-54	Cheese	'000 lb	38,836	1964-65
Sultanas	cwt	333,300	1943-44	Bacon & ham	'000 lb	11,735	1945-46
Wine	'000 gal	30,831	1961-62	Honey	'000 lb	10,906	1948-49
Orchards -				Area under -			
Almonds	cwt	22,404	1967-68	Crop	'000 acres	5,426	1930-31
Apples	'000 bush	1,750	1940-41	Fallow	'000 acres	2,607	1932-33
Apricots	'000 bush	1,307	1966-67	Sown pasture	'000 acres	6,738	1966-67
Oranges	'000 bush	3,250	1964-65				
Peaches	'000 bush	1,427	1966-67				
Pears	'000 bush	610	1967-68				

(a) Slightly greater yields per acre were recorded from small acreages over 100 years ago.

(b) Includes fresh grapes used for drying.

MACHINERY

Numbers of principal machines on rural holdings at 31 March in each of the last five years are shown in the following table:-

TABLE 12 - MACHINERY ON RURAL HOLDINGS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
	Number				
Tractors - Wheeled	29,841	30,772	30,984	32,507	33,230
Crawler	3,390	3,392	3,014	3,322	3,360
Rotary hoes, rotary tillers	5,260	5,670	5,883	5,442	5,597
Fertiliser distributors	8,413	8,743	8,893	9,166	9,710
Drills and combines	20,358	20,785	20,790	20,282	20,905
Grain and seed harvesters	12,617	12,659	12,393	11,597	11,905
Hay balers	4,149	4,258	4,609	4,760	4,992
Forage harvesters	660	675	754	765	845
Milking machines - No.	7,438	7,328	7,040	6,634	6,645
Units	19,057	19,135	18,833	18,143	18,399
Shearing machines - No.	14,885	15,172	15,386	15,392	15,758
Stands	28,149	28,844	29,291	29,343	29,786





DIRECT  
OVERSEAS  
EXPORTS

The following table shows the quantities of principal rural products exported directly overseas from South Australia during the last five years. INTERSTATE EXPORTS AND OVERSEAS EXPORTS VIA OTHER STATES ARE EXCLUDED.

TABLE 13 - RURAL PRODUCTS : PRINCIPAL OVERSEAS EXPORTS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Commodity	Unit	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
		'000				
Food and live animals						
Meat - Beef	lb	8,032	5,626	7,405	13,300	9,598
Lamb	lb	8,828	10,570	7,294	2,537	4,149
Butter	lb	898	453	608	129	165
Cheese	lb	21,194	18,612	17,581	15,398	17,571
Grain - Wheat	bushel	48,658	33,782	29,128	33,574	19,373
Barley	bushel	13,450	12,894	6,202	11,357	1,760
Flour	ton	80	70	57	49	38
Fruit, Dried - Raisins	lb	23,403	21,336	27,778	17,715	13,126
Other	lb	9,116	10,734	11,065	8,654	8,361
Preserved and pulped	lb	28,613	29,809	46,340	49,962	75,538
Beverages and tobacco						
Beverages - Wine	gal	1,437	1,882	1,803	1,602	1,608
Spirituuous liquors	pf gal	87	101	109	111	72
Crude materials, inedible						
Wool - Greasy	lb	163,298	164,358	172,639	173,563	160,531
Other	lb	14,624	11,652	12,715	12,881	13,750

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